The Temple Artisan

DECEMBER, 1917

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Mysticism and Social Science

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THE TEMPLE

PRIMARILY, The Temple is a cosmic organic centre, the constituent parts of which are the units of collective humanity.

Coincident with the original impulse, the first emanation from the Central Spiritual Sun—the Universal Heart—came into manifestation, the Father-Mother-Son, the triangular corner stone of The Temple, upon which is rising, age by age, a geometrically perfect edifice. The cap stones to the pillars of the porch, and the outer walls are now being laid, preliminary to the work of the roof-builders—the humanity of the sixth great root-race.

The place of each stone is determined by the law of selection, and the same law determines the different Degrees and Orders which lead to and from the great Stone of Sacrifice which rests upon the pavement of the Central Square.

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The organization of The Temple, the members of which belong by evolutionary right to a certain Degree of Cosmic Life, which Degree is subdivided into seven Orders, is the continuation and expansion of the work of the Masters revivified in this country a quarter of a century ago by certain chelas or disciples.

To the efforts of the Masters is due the impulse which has caused the great advance in scientific, philosophical and social endeavor; for they are the guardians of Ancient Wisdom and Knowledge, in which lies the root of all progress; and the work of The Temple is to cultivate and embody the highest principles of all such endeavor in one stupendous living organic whole.

It is a common belief that the fires on the altars of the Ancient Temples have been permitted to die out: but "those who know" say this is not true; that they are but hidden from the view of the masses, awaiting the time when the veil of ignorance and corruption hanging before the hearts of the humanity of this transitory period, shall be rent asunder, and the light of the ages become manifest to all. The time is comparatively close at hand when the doors of "The Temple of the Mysteries" shall once more swing outward. The Site of that once wonderful structure has been rediscovered, and when the Lord, the Saviour, the Elder Brother of the human race once more reappears to claim his own, He will find a place prepared for him by those who, having heard this call, "Come over and help us," have faithfully responded, and have taken up their share of the burden of responsibility. Are you of that number?

Address THE TEMPLE, Halcyon, California.

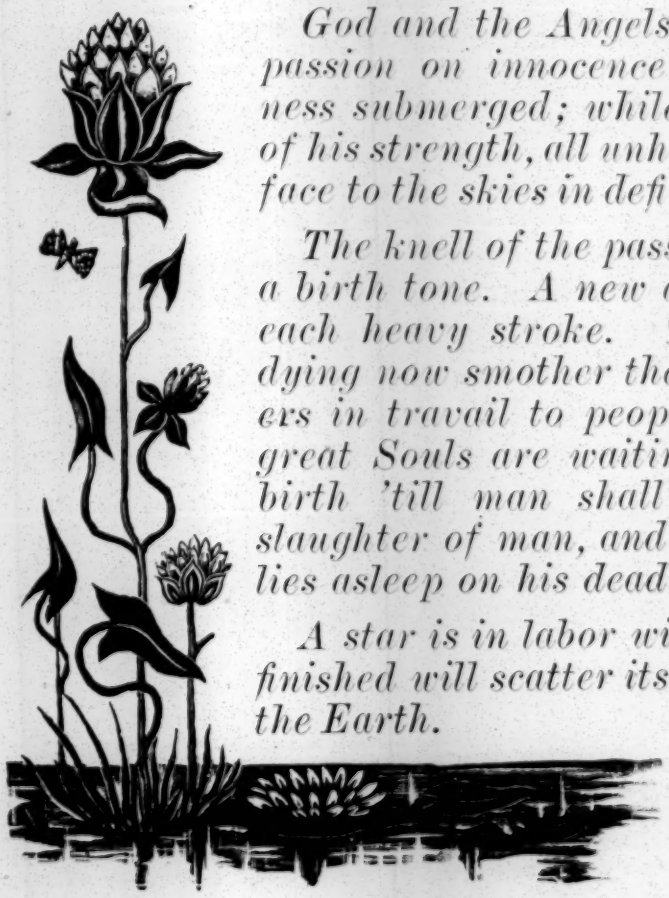
The Temple Artisan

Vol. XVIII. DECEMBER, 1917 No. 7

Behold, I give **unto thee a key.**

THE HEART OF A WORLD.

Hearken! Hearken! Ye sons of the Ages. One! Two! Three. One! Two! Three. The clock of the Stars is now striking the knell of a fast passing day. Are ye deaf that ye hear not, dead that ye feel not the throb of the heart,—the heart of a world now fevered and crushed?



God and the Angels look down in compassion on innocence blasted, on weakness submerged; while man in the prime of his strength, all unhindered, lifts up his face to the skies in defiance.

The knell of the passing bell gives forth a birth tone. A new age is borning with each heavy stroke. The shrieks of the dying now smother the moaning of mothers in travail to people the earth, while great Souls are waiting to come back to birth 'till man shall have finished his slaughter of man, and glutted with blood lies asleep on his dead.

A star is in labor with Time, and when finished will scatter its birth dust to cover the Earth.

FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP.

O God, Be Merciful!

O God! be merciful to us! Have pity on us, white and black and red and brown,—mere atoms of Thyself,—we who know not what we do, or knowing, lack the power to rightly do Thy will!

O God, be merciful! Slay Thou the demon Hate, whom we in ignorance have brought to birth, to blast us by its power thenceforth. We dare not ask for Justice, knowing well that seething fires of Vengeance, Pride and Bigotry are burning in our hearts arousing lust for slaughter of our fellow men.

O God, be merciful! If Mercy still abides with Thee! It well may be that in our wantonness or cruelty throughout the ages past, we have destroyed the Mercy seat, or clipped the wings of that bright Angel form. Blind indeed are we with blindness born of wilfulness, of lust for gain and earthly power; but Thou, O God, must know that underneath our frailty and our human weakness, there lies an ever torturing longing for the power to live as Thou would'st have Thy children live. Be merciful O God, to thine own self! Are we not cast in Thine own image pure, whate'er our Nation, color, or our tongue; however deeply lies the brand of Cain upon our brows?

Call us not to Thee, when comes our final hour, by any name bestowed upon us by our Country, Race or Tribe, but only by the name of Pentitent. If it must be alone by means of sword or bayonet, by gun or cannon shot, our blood is let to pay our debt to life, we pray Thee let Thy mercy open wide the path, that side by side Thy children all may find the way to Thee at last.

Only through Thy mercy can we find the strength to slay the merciless, the brute which ever clamors at the human heart that it may dull "the still small voice" within.

Be merciful, O God, to all mankind; to all who are unknown to us, yet who are loved and sorrowed o'er as we now love and sorrow o'er our own.

B. S.

SOME OF THE CHIEF CAUSES FOR FAILURE IN THE DOMAIN OF OCCULTISM.

Temple Teachings. Open Series. No. CXXXIV.

That there has been a failure so far as the successful establishment of a vast organized body is concerned, is beyond controversy, that is, such a body as was planned by the Initiates of the White Lodge when they sent their representative to the Western world.

These causes were, first, abnormal development of the quality of egotism unsupported by knowledge among the early investigators of the Wisdom Religion. Second, great increase in the number of imitators of the phenomena produced by true Initiates, and the natural reaction which followed the exposure of fraudulent methods of producing phenomena. Third, false claims to personal guidance of the Masters by the self-deceived or ambitious; fourth, unfaithfulness to vows of discipleship, and consequent contempt for such weakness in the minds of those who had previously considered such solemnly pledged disciples as examples for others to follow; fifth, false teaching along the line of sex; last, but by no means least, an army of braggarts who have constantly poured forth accounts of personal contact with the Masters, accounts in which the wisdom and worth of the braggart was duly extolled and the lack of spiritual perception in the case of their followers greatly deplored. The final result in such instances has been the arousing of suspicion and the direction of adverse currents of force against the true disciple of the Masters, which has stultified their efforts to interpret and give forth the valuable teachings of the Wisdom Religion to a world in travail.

What should have been the greatest, most far reaching organized effort for good in the world, by this time, has become a heterogeneous mixture of small cults, each one under the direction of some *pseudo* occultist who is incapable of fulfilling his or her promises to followers. Only here and there among these groups may be found a genuine chela of the Masters who is endeavoring to leaven the lump of fraudulent or unwise teaching presented to their number. Of all the enemies by which these chelas are beset there are none capable of inflicting so much injury to the cause of occultism as the before mentioned braggarts, who by their claims of superior development and of the constant supervision of their "personal Master" arouse strong feelings of envy or of discouragement on account of the seeming difference between the claimant and his whilom student who finally sinks into a state of despair, or of disgust at everything bearing the name of occultism. Such an one is unable to recover from the shock to his inner nature throughout his whole life. The evident ignorance of the causes back of the desertion of their erstwhile followers is the most hopeless feature of the failure of such self-deceived braggarts.

There are false prophets, deceivers and liars in every religious movement, but there are not always the opportunities for braggadocia in those other that there are in a body of students of occultism.

Eventually the truth will prevail in the case of the first mentioned

movements and the deceived one will be rehabilitated in his own estimation, but in the case of the utterly disheartened and discouraged student of occultism it is difficult for him to recover his former state of security, for the claims of the braggart will present themselves repeatedly to his mentality, and he knows just enough of some of the facts of psychic development to understand that such claims might possibly be justified in the case of the braggart, while at the same time his Higher Self is trying to convince him of the worthlessness of those claims, consequently there is a continuous state of confusion in his mind and he never feels sure of either side of the argument.

But for the fact that there are the few who have remained faithful to the teachings of the Masters who gave the truths of the Wisdom Religion to the Western world, those Masters might well despair. But while there has been the failure I have mentioned, in many instances, and despite the injury inflicted on numerous groups of people by the ignorant and selfish, the force of the main tenets of the Wisdom Religion—Karma, Reincarnation, and the Seven Principles of life—has permeated the thought currents of the world, as is evidenced in changes which have occurred in science, art, literature and religion; and it is because of that fact that there will be sufficient antagonism opposed to the present day revival of orthodox philosophy to prevent its reaching the same low level of cruelty, inhumanity and pure diabolism which a similar wave reached in the 17th century when the notable Blue Laws enforced the burning of suspected witches, the jailing of the Sabbath breaker and the inhuman treatment of women accused of breaking the Seventh Commandment, as well as countless other crimes against humanity; and if only so much good has been accomplished the work of the Initiates of the White Lodge has not failed, in the true sense of the word failure.

The return of the spokes of the cosmic wheel to a similar point of the world spiral is accountable for the present antagonistic wave against materialism and occultism. The course the wave is taking was to be expected. It will do its appointed work and make way for the return wave of the Wisdom Religion. Nevertheless the world has sustained a great temporary loss by the failure of so many students of occultism to rise to the heights presented to them, and their failure has made it so much more difficult for the faithful to accomplish the task given them to perform.

Received Sept. 14th, from K. H.

COMMENTS BY B. S.

It should be enough and more than enough for the self styled occultist to catch a single glimpse of the ray of the Sun of awakening which is pouring the Light of spiritual revival over the world, to make him take to the woods or hide his head in a coal bin, if he cannot be aroused to a sense of his duty. Especially is this true if it has even dawned on his consciousness that the soul hunger of the masses of humanity is being temporarily satisfied by means of blasphemy, irreverence and gutter slang, given out in chunks with a few old-time revival platitudes, and delivered in the presence of or by hundreds of ministers of the Gospel who are hypnotized by the personal magnetism of the speakers into believing they are listening to the very voice of God, and enjoying the vituperation and abuse themselves because each one believes it is directed at some other one of their own profession, and could not possibly be directed at themselves. They are not asking, "Is it I, Lord?" They are simply urging God on to see that the other fellow receives his due. What a picture these self-styled occulists must present to the Masters they claim to serve when they can sit back at their ease and do nothing themselves or even help those who are willing to work to counteract the evil that is being done, or take advantage of the outpouring of spiritual power in the greatest of all the cycles of the past trillions of years. Where are the men and women who dare to stand up and face the blasphemers in their amphitheaters filled with the poor ignorant masses of humanity, and say, "You have something more to do for these people than to give them a crumb or two of spiritual truth which will only leave them all the more hungry and miserable when the tide of emotionalism has sunk to the bed of the stream and there is naught to satisfy their hunger on the muddy banks.

The student of occultism who has taken advantage of the wonderful outpouring of truth in the last quarter of a century ought to be able to interpret the symbolism of the Bible mysticism and give such interpretations to the thousands who are brought to some realization of their own shortcomings and who are therefore in a condition of mind which would make them receptive to the vast underlying truths of the immaculate conception, salvation by faith, the Last Supper, the miracles of Jesus, etc., doubt of which furnishes material for years of unbelief and despair, after the first effects of the emotional wave which has awakened them to neces-

sity for change in former methods of life, has died down, and which rightly interpreted furnish rational natural solutions of the mysteries, and give a real foundation for belief.

THEOGENESIS.

Commentaries on the Nine New Stanzas of Dzyan, given by the Master Morya to the Temple of the People for the New Humanity.

STANZA VI. SLOKA III (Continued).

"They cried to the images made by their own hands and to the stars and to the invisible ones, 'Show us the mysteries of our Fathers. We are blind and dumb before our enemies. We grope in the darkness for the light which lit the fire that now burns so low within us'."

As is always the case with savage races and very often with less ignorant races, it would seem that Idolatry soon developed as a result of association with some of the lower forms of Elemental life. The images made by them may easily have been of the mammoth monoliths, totem poles, pillars, etc., etc., more recently discovered in Central America, Africa, Australia and other thinly inhabited portions of the world, as well as those well known to the world at large, especially in Egypt. There is one curious fact in connection with such images which is of special interest to students of Occultism, namely, the fact that, sub-consciously, the earlier races must have realized the deep truth of Symbolism as a language, for these languages all bore symbols of the same deep Spiritual verities that are even now represented by the Symbolic figures in modern churches, and also of those symbols given in finer forms of substance on more interior planes, sometimes in geometrical figures, colors or tones and which, altogether, form the Mystery Language. It is interesting to note that with the first dawnings of spirituality the mentality of man seizes the idea of expressing itself in symbol as do the more highly developed individuals of later ages in the line of sculpture, painting and music. The finer the mentality, the more beautiful become the forms expressed. Everything in nature is a symbol of some spiritual verity, consequently the true nature lover is very apt to have an intuitive grasp of great spiritual principles and endeavors to express them as best he may.

Naturally those early races would have cried to the images made by them. It would not have occurred to them to appeal to an abstraction. The images represented the highest ideals they were capable of conceiving, even higher than the sun and stars, which they also worshipped, and which were visible realities to them, being on the same plane of life as were their own physical bodies, consequently were less mysterious than the thought images which appealed to their dawning spiritual consciousness.

The "invisible ones" to whom they appealed were some of the higher orders of Elementals such as are the fiery hosts, for some of the higher orders as well as the lower orders of life were perfectly visible to the individuals of the third and fourth races until after the fall of the last sub-races of the fourth race into grievous forms of black magic which resulted in the destruction of all but a bare remnant of the race whose units had awakened to a knowledge of their great loss, *i. e.*, the light of spiritual knowledge, without which they were utterly incapable of dealing with the conditions in which they found themselves. B. S.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Temple Builders—No. 148

ONE CHRISTMAS DAY.

Can it be true, my Mother, that the Christ hath come today?
As Father said this morn before the Altar high? Remember, Mother,
How he cried in accents loud, Rejoice: my people, and be glad,
For Christ the well beloved son hath come to us today.

But tell me, Mother, how can Christ come back again to Earth,
When nowhere is there aught but warring hosts, and death,
And trust betrayed, and homes made desolate, and children pray to God
To keep all other children back in Heaven, that no more come to birth.

To suffer as do we, while Fatherless we roam, through streets,
Now wrecked, which only yesterday were all alive and gay;
But where is only ruin now, and sights which fright the eye,
Of stark dead forms, uncovered, coffinless, a very demon's feasts.

My Father said this morn, that Christ in love had come, to save
His people from their sins; but now at even-tide there is no place
For him to lay his head, or stay his steps the while he offers grace
To stricken souls whose eyes seek here and there a grave.

The bayonet and gun, the sword and gas, have done their deadly work,
And we are now cast out, as those prescribed of old, were cast
From haunts of men, to seek a shelter 'neath a broken wall or in a trench,
Deserted, cold and dank, and where the deepest shadows lurk,

There seems no place for Christ on all the blood drenched earth,
He cannot come into our home as He was wont to come,
We cannot hang our stockings up beside a cheery hearth—
On Christmas Eve, again, for we have neither home nor hearth.

Hush: Hush: my Child. No need hath Christ, the Lord, for earthly home or hearth.
A broken heart will always yield Him place, and many are the broken hearts within this land of dearth—
On which the ruthless hand of man hath lain despite all right.
The Christ must suffer with, as well, as for, the stricken ones of earth.
So just be still my child, and sleep, for He will watch until the morning light.

B. S.

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EDITORIAL MIRROR.

Jerusalem again under Christian rule!

It is no mere accident that such a momentous event has come to pass at this time.

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The karmic results of that rejection has culminated in these days in the Great Universal War now raging. But the wresting of the historic city from the Turk is a sign that a New Cycle is opening, that the old is passing quickly. The Turk could not lose Jerusalem until the hand of Karma was removed.

However, it has come, and after the deluge of acid and blood, another Great Light will appear for the healing of the nations. Its rosy beams of hope for humanity is already discernible to many standing on the hills. Those rays are the herald of the One to Come—the Great Unifier.

But humanity must attain true humility before it can bathe in the radiance of the New Day. In no other way can the Christ within humanity come to light. *It is always born in a manger.*

Humanity must get back to the manger to find the Christ, led by the Three Wise men, the Triune aspect of the Higher Self. All falsities, artificialties, everything not based on the eternal verities, on the great moral foundation of the universe will be swept aside like chaff *in this Judgment Day of the world.*

Do we not now see humanity *naked* so to speak, the nations unmasked, all that made decadence thrown into the lime light of Truth itself. Vice, whiskey, waste, weakness, of every kind revealed as frightful factors that has held back the progress of humanity. The Light of the Triple Star shineth into the world darkness and it will shine increasingly bright, as the days pass.

W. H. D.

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES.

Owing to demand for same, copies of *Occultism for Beginners*, have been bound in cloth with paper jacket. Price for cloth bound copy is 50 cents; paper 25 cents, post paid. Order from Halcyon Book Concern, Halcyon, Cal.

In New York City, both the cloth bound and paper edition may be obtained from Brentano's Book Store.

* * * *

The Publicity Department wishes to express its appreciation to those Temple members who have so courteously sent return offerings for the two Christmas cards mailed them. We hope to hear from every member, and so start the New Year with a propaganda that will include each and every one of us in its cyclic sweep.

SARAH A. MERRELL BRIGGS, General Secretary.

* * * *

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WANTED—A Temple member stenographer and typist to take a place on the staff of workers at the Temple Centre. This need is vital as the Heads of the Temple work are unable to write and answer letters to members to the extent that should be done on account of lacking stenographic help. Any member who can qualify for this position and who desires to be associated at Headquarters should write the Centre.

* * * *

All orders and checks for Correspondence Courses, Library and Christmas Messages should be sent direct to Sarah A. M. Briggs, General Secretary.

* * * *

If your ARTISANS are delayed do not assume that they are lost. In common with many other periodicals, the ARTISAN is subjected to detention, owing to the present need for rapid transit of soldiers, and actual necessities by the government.

This seems like another opportunity for the cultivation of Patience.

* * * *

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